

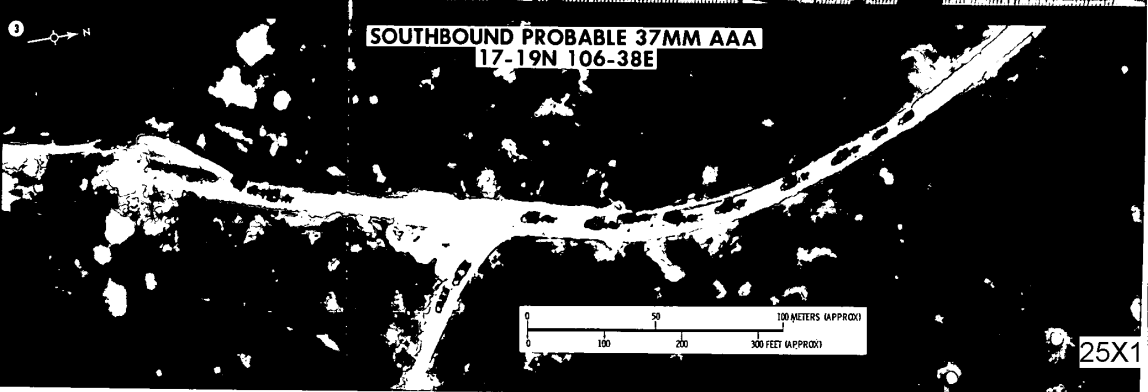
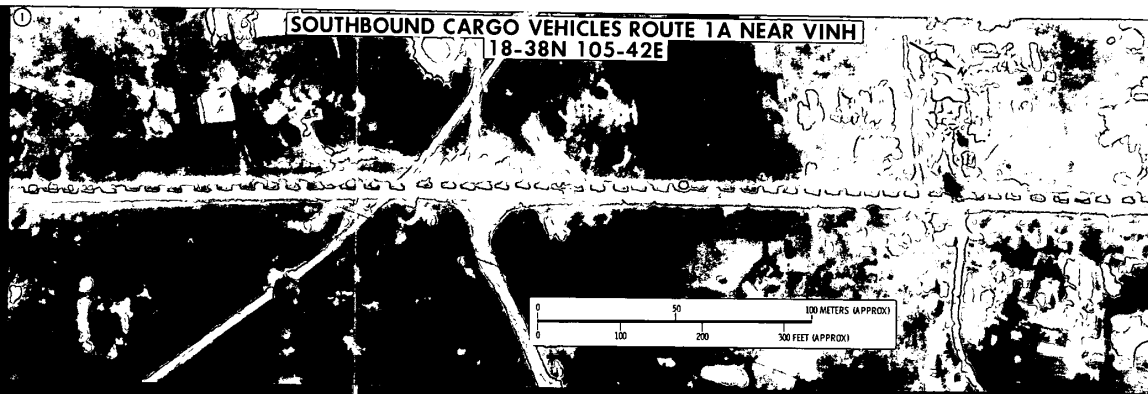
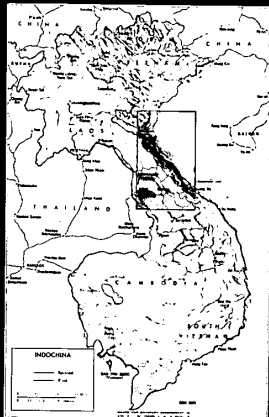
**INCREASED VEHICLE ACTIVITY
PANHANDLE AREA, NORTH VIETNAM**

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MISSION GS 680, 22 JANUARY 1973

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REFERENCE TO: GS-680

INCREASED VEHICULAR ACTIVITY
PANHANDLE AREA
NORTH VIETNAM

1. SIGNIFICANCE: INCREASED VEHICULAR ACTIVITY IN PANHANDLE AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM FROM VINH SOUTH TO DMZ FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCED CEASE-FIRE SETTLEMENT AND BOMBING HALT.
2. LOCATION: SONG CA FERRY CROSSING AT VINH IS AT 18-38-56N 105-42-24E; ANTI AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA) CONVOY MOVING SOUTH AT 17-19-40N 106-38-00E; FIELD ARTILLERY (FA) CONVOY MOVING SOUTH AT 17-46-12N 106-26-41.
3. REMARKS: PHOTOGRAPHY SINCE THE BOMBING HALT OF 15 JANUARY 1973 HAS SHOWN INCREASED VEHICULAR, DAYTIME TRAFFIC ON ROUTES IN THE PANHANDLE AREA. ONE GIANT SCALE MISSION OF 22 JANUARY REVEALED 568 TRUCKS MOVING ON ROUTE 1A AND ADJACENT ROUTES BETWEEN VINH AND THE DMZ. AN ADDITIONAL COUNT OF APPROXIMATELY 100 VEHICLES WERE PARKED NEAR THE ROUTES. SUPPLIES WERE STOCKPILED AT TRANSSHIPMENT POINTS AND IN SMALL STORAGE AREAS ALONG

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WARNING NOTICE
Sensitive Intelligence Sources
and Methods Involved.

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3. REMARKS:
(CONT'D) ROUTES. FA AND AAA WERE OBSERVED BEING MOVED SOUTH. SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC WAS APPARENTLY BEING GIVEN PRIORITY OVER NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC -- ESPECIALLY AT ONE WAY BRIDGES AND OTHER RIVER CROSSINGS.
4. MISSION READOUT: A TRAFFIC BACK-UP OF 64 SOUTHBOUND CARGO TRUCKS WAS OBSERVED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SONG CA FERRY CROSSING ON ROUTE 1A AT VINH. THE VEHICLES WERE IN TWO GROUPS -- NINE VEHICLES CLOSE TO THE FERRY LANDING AND 55 VEHICLES FURTHER NORTH. ON THE SOUTH BANK, 38 NORTHBOUND VEHICLES WERE WAITING TO CROSS. ELEVEN OTHER VEHICLES WERE CONTINUING SOUTHBOUND ON ROUTE 1A. THERE WERE THREE FERRIES ACTIVE AT THE CROSSING. ONE NEAR THE NORTH BANK WITH SIX VEHICLES, PROBABLY NORTHBOUND. THE TWO FERRIES NEAR THE SOUTH BANK WERE APPARENTLY LOADING VEHICLES NORTHBOUND. THE MAJORITY OF THE SOUTHBOUND CARGO TRUCKS WERE CANVAS COVERED OR OPEN AND LOADED WITH UNIDENTIFIED SUPPLIES. NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC WAS PRIMARILY EMPTY CARGO TRUCKS (FIGURE 1). NOTE: ONLY TRAFFIC ON NORTH BANK SHOWN.
- THERE WERE 14 MEDIUM FA PIECES BEING TOWED SOUTHBOUND ON ROUTE 1A JUST NORTHEAST OF DONG HOI. TEN ADDITIONAL CARGO TRUCKS WERE SOUTHBOUND ON THIS ROUTE SEGMENT AND 29 CARGO TRUCKS WERE NORTHBOUND. TEN OTHER VEHICLES WERE PARKED IN FIELDS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ROUTE (FIGURE 2). NOTE: ALL EQUIPMENT NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC.

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4. MISSION READOUT: (CONT'D)

ELEVEN AAA PIECES IN TOW WERE OBSERVED IN SOUTHBOUND CONVOY OF 33 VEHICLES 10 NM SOUTH OF DONG HOI. THE CONVOY WAS APPROACHING A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED PONTOON BRIDGE OVER THE DAI GIANG (RIVER) ON ROUTE 101. THREE VEHICLES ARE ON THE BRIDGE (FIGURE 3).

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